

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

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STEVEN LEATH,	:	
	:	
	:	
Petitioner,	:	Civ. No. 17-3178 (NLH)
	:	
v.	:	OPINION
	:	
WARDEN DAVID E. ORTIZ,	:	
	:	
Respondent.	:	

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APPEARANCES:

Steven Leath  
47163-066  
Fort Dix  
Federal Correctional Institution  
Inmate Mail/Parcels  
East: P.O. Box 2000  
Fort Dix, NJ 08640  
Petitioner Pro se

HILLMAN, District Judge

Petitioner Steven Leath, a prisoner confined at the Federal Correctional Institution ("FCI") in Fort Dix, New Jersey, files this writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2241, requesting placement in a halfway house and home confinement for the last eighteen months of his sentence under the Second Chance Act.<sup>1</sup>

The filing fee for a petition for writ of habeas corpus is \$5.00. Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 54.3(a), the filing fee is

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<sup>1</sup> Petitioner is currently scheduled for release from custody on October 15, 2019.

required to be paid at the time the petition is presented for filing. Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 81.2(b), whenever a prisoner submits a petition for writ of habeas and seeks to proceed in forma pauperis, that petitioner must submit (a) an affidavit setting forth information which establishes that the petitioner is unable to pay the fees and costs of the proceedings, and (b) a certification signed by an authorized officer of the institution certifying (1) the amount presently on deposit in the prisoner's prison account and, (2) the greatest amount on deposit in the prisoners institutional account during the six-month period prior to the date of the certification. If the institutional account of the petitioner exceeds \$200, the petitioner shall not be considered eligible to proceed in forma pauperis. L. Civ. R. 81.2(c).

Here, Petitioner did not prepay the \$5.00 filing fee for a habeas petition as required by Local Civil Rule 54.3(a), nor did Petitioner submit a complete application for leave to proceed in forma pauperis. Specifically, he failed to submit the required account certification. L. Civ. Rule 81.2(b).

#### CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, the Clerk of the Court will be ordered to administratively terminate this action without

prejudice.<sup>2</sup> Petitioner will be granted leave to apply to re-open within 45 days, by either prepaying the filing fee or submitting a complete application for leave to proceed in forma pauperis.

An appropriate Order will be entered.

Dated: June 20, 2017  
At Camden, New Jersey

s/ Noel L. Hillman  
NOEL L. HILLMAN, U.S.D.J.

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<sup>2</sup> Such an administrative termination is not a "dismissal" for purposes of the statute of limitations, and if the case is re-opened pursuant to the terms of the accompanying Order, it is not subject to the statute of limitations time bar if it was originally submitted timely. See Houston v. Lack, 487 U.S. 266 (1988) (prisoner mailbox rule); Papotto v. Hartford Life & Acc. Ins. Co., 731 F.3d 265, 275-76 (3d Cir. 2013) (collecting cases and explaining that a District Court retains jurisdiction over, and can re-open, administratively closed cases).